IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

detection means for detecting whether or not externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium;

~~transmission~~ communicative means for transmitting request information that requests related information about contents included in received broadcast information, [[for]]

the communicative means transmitting a transmission of available/unavailable request information ~~that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing said related information about the contents~~ identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, ~~the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information, for~~

the communicative means receiving [[said]] available/unavailable information in a reply to [[a]] the transmission of said available/unavailable request information, the available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing said related information about the contents, ~~and for~~

the communicative means transmitting said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, wherein

said detection means stores said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium.

2. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

notification means for notifying whether or not said external device offers the service providing said related information about the contents, based on said available/unavailable information.

3. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising:

display means for displaying advertisement information to promote said user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information.

4. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein a URL showing advertisement information to promote said user registration is included in said available/unavailable information.

5. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said externally input user personal information includes at least name information corresponding to a name of said communication apparatus.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A communication method implemented in a communication apparatus, the communication method comprising:

detecting whether or not externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium;

transmitting available/unavailable request information ~~that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing related information about contents included in received broadcast information~~ identifying a broadcast station that broadcast received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting~~, the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information~~;

receiving [[said]] available/unavailable information, showing whether or not [[said]] an external device offers [[said]] a service providing related information about contents included in the received broadcast information, in a reply to the transmitting said available/unavailable request information;

transmitting, with the communication apparatus, said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting;

storing said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting; and

transmitting request information that requests said related information about the contents.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium including a communication program, wherein the communication program, when executed by a computer, makes the computer perform a method comprising:

detecting whether or not externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium;

transmitting available/unavailable request information ~~that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing related information about contents included in received broadcast information~~ identifying a broadcast station that broadcast received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting~~, the available/unavailable information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information~~;

receiving [[said]] available/unavailable information, showing whether or not [[said]] an external device offers [[said]] a service providing related information about contents included in the received broadcast information, in a reply to the transmitting said available/unavailable request information;

transmitting said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting;

storing said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting; and

transmitting request information that requests said related information about the contents.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The communication method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

displaying advertisement information to promote said user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information.

15. (Previously Presented) The communication method according to Claim 9, wherein a URL showing advertisement information to promote said user registration is included in said available/unavailable information.

16. (Previously Presented) The communication method according to Claim 9, wherein said externally input user personal information includes at least name information corresponding to a name of said communication apparatus.

17. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

a processing unit configured to detect whether or not externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium; and

a network interface configured to transmit a transmission of available/unavailable request information that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing related information about contents included in received broadcast information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information has not been stored

in said storage medium, ~~the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast~~ ~~station that broadcast the received broadcast information,~~

the network interface configured to receive [[said]] available/unavailable information in a reply to [[a]] the transmission of said available/unavailable request information, the available/unavailable information showing whether or not an external device offers a service providing related information about contents included in the received broadcast information,

the network interface configured to transmit said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said processing unit detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, [[and]]

the network interface configured to transmit request information that requests said related information about the contents, wherein

the processing unit stores said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said processing unit detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium.

18. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the detection means stores said externally input user personal information in said storage medium upon a reception of registration completion information from said external device in response to the user registration.

19. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the transmission means transmits the request information, if the detection means detects that the externally input user personal information has been stored in the storage medium.

20. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein the request information identifies the broadcast station.